

PARIS.

Particulars Regarding the Rejection of the Armistice.

Refusal to Revivify the Capital or Permit Alsace and Lorraine to Vote.

French Denunciation of Bismarck's Duplicity.

Intrigues for a Restoration of the Orleans Dynasty.

Proposition to Make the Duc d'Aumale President of the Republic.

Herald Special Report of an Interview with General Changarnier.

He Defends Bazaine from the Charge of Treachery, but Pronounces Him Incompetent.

The General in Favor of the Orleansists.

Views of Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern on the Situation.

He Denounces the French for Their Treatment of Napoleon.

The Bombardment of Paris to Begin To-Day.

General Situation of Affairs in the City.

Eighty Thousand Prussians Advancing on Amiens and Rouen.

Surrender of One of the Forts of Neuf Breisach.

THE ARMISTICE.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

What is Said in England—Little Hope.

LONDON, Nov. 7, 1870.

I have advised from the Continent which state that M. Thiers is still at Versailles, and that M. Laurier is strongly in favor of an armistice, particularly since his return from England after negotiating the new loan.

The hope of the successful completion of an armistice is not, however, yielded to here. Indeed it is not entertained to any great extent in well-informed circles.

Negotiations without result—Paris not to be revivified.

LONDON, Nov. 7, 1870.

Special telegrams, dated at Versailles on the 5th instant, in the evening, report that M. Thiers received permission to go from Paris to the enemy's outposts, near the village of Sevres—situated at a distance of four miles east-northeast of the capital—in order that he should meet M. Jules Favre.

M. Covert, Thiers' secretary, went to Paris yesterday.

The Paris forts fired on the village of Sevres during the time of Thiers' visit to the place, as the government had previously ordered the negotiations to be broken off at Versailles.

The report is confirmed that during Thiers' visit the Prussian Chancellor, Bismarck, would not accede to his proposal for the admission of food to Paris during the armistice. The provisional government of France would not agree to the armistice unless food was permitted to the city.

News of the Rejection Forwarded to the Prussian Minister at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7, 1870.

The Associated Press despatch from Versailles announcing that M. Thiers has received orders from Paris to break off the negotiation for an armistice and leave the royal headquarters is confirmed by an official despatch received in this city by the North German Minister.

THE ARMISTICE AND POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

A Regret—Departure of M. Thiers from Versailles—The Demands of Bismarck—His Statement—What Germany Expects—The Hints in the Negotiations—Reason of Their Rejection—Prussian Report—Prussia Denounced as Responsible—Bismarck's Duplicity Denounced—American Correspondents and M. Thiers—Russia Backed by Prussia—A Correction of Statements—Bismarck's Agents in Belgium.

LONDON, Nov. 7, 1870.

The morning papers deplore the fatality of Paris in declining the preliminary overtures for peace.

DEPARTURE OF M. THIERS FROM VERSAILLES.

A correspondent telegraphed from Versailles, the 7th, that Thiers left Versailles for Tours. In reality the negotiating parties never approached to a basis of agreement for an armistice. A revivification of Paris was insisted on from the beginning of Thiers, but steadily refused by Bismarck.

REPORT OF BISMARCK'S DEMANDS.

A correspondent at Paris, the 6th, writes:—The terms insisted upon by Bismarck are announced as follows:—France should pledge herself, either by the Assembly or government, to pay eighty millions indemnity; to consent to the Germans retaining all the war material captured; to maintain a standing army of only 150,000 men, and agree to the annexation of Alsace and Lorraine to Bavaria, forming a neutral State, and not to oppose the purchase of Luxembourg by Prussia. When these terms were made known the people unanimously rejected

them with the cry of "No armistice. Resist the Prussians till death."

STATEMENT OF BISMARCK.

A despatch from Versailles the 7th inst. says:—Count Bismarck states that during the five days' negotiations with Thiers all was agreed upon except the question of revivifying Paris. As this would have been a great military advantage to the French, Bismarck demanded they should give something equivalent in a military point of view. The provisional government was unable or unwilling to do this, and ordered the negotiations to be broken off.

WHAT GERMANY EXPECTS.

A correspondent at Versailles states that he had a conversation with a German officer of high rank who said that Bismarck could not offer easier terms than those already made, of which Germany would refuse to consent to any abatement. The territory captured must be retained; Paris must be entered and the treaty made there.

THE HITCH IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

The London Times this morning, in its editorial on the situation in France, says the armistice turned on the question of free ingress and egress at Paris during the twenty-five days, Thiers insisting and Bismarck refusing. During the conference between M. Thiers and Jules Favre at Sevres the Paris forts maintained a steady fire on the place of interview. The conference lasted eight hours.

REASON FOR THE REJECTION.

A telegram from Tours reports that a despatch from Vendôme says the proposition for an armistice has been unanimously refused by the leaders of the Paris government. The reason for this is found in the refusal on the part of Prussia of the project to revivify the city and also because she accepted with reserve the scheme for allowing Alsace and Lorraine to vote for members of the Constituent Assembly. The Paris government is generally supported in its action by the people of all classes.

A PRUSSIAN REPORT OF THE REASON.

A Prussian despatch from Versailles reports that Thiers positively declined to conclude the armistice on the basis that the present status continue four weeks. He had no equivalent to offer for the provisioning of Paris, which consequently could not be conceded.

PRUSSIA RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FAILURE.

The *Moniteur* of Tours says Prussia, as she would neither consent to the revivification of Paris, nor allow Alsace and Lorraine to vote in the election for delegates to the Constituent Assembly, assumes all responsibility for the continuance of the war. Prussia, not France, has refused the armistice.

BISMARCK'S DUPLICITY DENOUNCED.

A telegram from Tours says that all the journals there express the bitterest resentment at the duplicity of Bismarck, who, pretending to negotiate for a suspension of hostilities, thus gained time for the approach of reinforcements, and wanted of an attack from the Army of the Loire, which could have taken the offensive with advantage.

DETAILS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS—BISMARCK AMUSING THIERS.

Thiers' first interview with Bismarck on the 30th lasted fifteen minutes. When Thiers left Bismarck on this occasion he seemed greatly depressed. He then went to Paris via Sevres, returning on the evening of the 31st, accompanied by M. Renoult, and bringing the consent of the government to treat for an armistice on the grounds proposed by England. At twelve o'clock, noon, on the 1st of November, Thiers had another interview with Bismarck, lasting two hours, and ending in effecting an agreement, save one or two points. Pending the receipt of powers from the Tours government, for which he had sent, nothing more transpired until the 3d, when Thiers had another interview with Bismarck, lasting three hours, returning to the Hotel des Evénements in high spirits, but it was whispered among some German officers that night that Bismarck was simply amusing Thiers, who finally insisted on some condition, but could not assent to break off negotiations.

AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS ANNOYED BY M. THIERS.

M. Thiers complains of the annoyance caused him by the eagerness of American correspondents to obtain news of the recent negotiations.

RUSSIA BACKED BY PRUSSIA.

A despatch from Vienna, dated to-day, states that a *Revue* in the *Wiener* newspaper says Prussia concurs with Russia in desiring a revision of the treaty of 1866.

A COLLECTION OF STATEMENTS.

The Duke of Gramont writes to the journals here to-day correcting the statements which have been extensively published as to events preliminary to the war. He complains of Lord Lyons, the British Minister, for allowing these to circulate uncontradicted.

BEIJING AND THE BONAPARTE PARTY.

A telegram from Brussels says that petitions, numerous signed throughout Belgium, have been presented to the Chambers asking that the sojourn of Bonapartists agents in Belgium may be prohibited.

A FRENCH DIPLOMATIC VIEW.

Opinions of the French Chargé d'Affaires in London—France—Savagely in Earnest—Strength of the Paris Forts—Number of Soldiers in the City—Why the Armistice was Rejected.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Nov. 7, 1870.

A correspondent had a conversation to-day with the French Chargé d'Affaires in London. He said that the members of the government in Paris rejected the conditions made by Bismarck because they are confident of the ability of France to finally repel the invaders, preserve all the territory and save the honor of the country.

SAVAGELY IN EARNEST.

France is now savagely in earnest. Every day she grows stronger and more conscious of her strength. Prussia can no longer get food and forage by simply overrunning the population. They get winter advances Prussia's difficulties in obtaining supplies will become greater, while the armies of Roubaix and Metz will have no trouble in receiving everything necessary.

STRENGTH OF THE PARIS FORTS.

An attack upon the forts defending Paris will scarcely be possible before the 20th, and no bombardment of the city will be possible till the forts are taken.

The forts are armed with more powerful guns than any that have yet been planted against them. The Prussians have few guns of heavier caliber than sixty-four pounds. Should these now open fire the guns of the forts would soon silence them. And even should the forts be finally taken the ground between them and the *ennemi* are honey-combed with mines filled with powder, ready to be exploded by electric wires, and all the roads leading to the gates are defended by batteries of masonry, constructed with accurate skill and mounted with guns of the best description.

NUMBER OF SOLDIERS IN THE CITY.

The whole number of men now around Paris is 80,000 men, of whom 650,000 are armed, and have arrived at a high state of discipline. The drilling of the new levies is proceeding rapidly, so that 200,000 additional troops, in excellent condition, will soon be ready and capable of taking the field. The supplies of food will certainly be ample till the 1st of January.

WHY THE ARMISTICE WAS REJECTED.

At the final interview between Count Bismarck and Jules Favre, the former, for the first time, declared that he would not consent to the admission of food into Paris during the truce. The provisional government of France refused its consent to the armistice without this condition, which Bismarck had intimated would be granted. The real cause of the disagreement, however, was the utter refusal of the French government to promise a cession of territory.

ORLEANS RESTORATION.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Duke d'Aumale "Spoken of as President of the French Republic."

LONDON, Nov. 7, 1870.

Telegrams from the Continent which have been received here to-day report that a national feeling is

just now spreading rapidly all over France in favor of calling the Duke d'Aumale to the Presidency of the republic.

THE DUKE D'AUMALE.

Prince Eugene Philippe-Louis d'Orléans, the gentleman who is mentioned alone as being likely to succeed to the Presidency of the French republic, is a grandson of the late King Louis Philippe. His father, the Duke de Nemours, was the second child of the King, and his mother daughter of Prince Ferdinand, of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. Duke d'Aumale was born in Paris on the 16th of January, in the year 1822. On the 25th of November, 1844, he married the Princess Caroline Augusta, daughter of Leopold, Duke of the Two Sicilies. Duke d'Aumale has one son, who was born at Twickenham, England, on the 6th of January, 1854.

CHANGARNIER'S STATEMENT.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

A Herald Correspondent in Interview With the General—His Residence in Brussels—A Card from the Americans and Immediate Reception—Personal Appearance of the Famous Commander—Greetings—Sorrow for France of To-Day—The Story of Metz—Changarnier on Bazaine's Position—Effects of the Siege—His Army Reduced by Starvation and Inaction—The Cavalry Dismounted—Horses Eaten and Artillery Motionless—Dreadful Suffering, and Surrender a Necessity—Facts and Incidents—The General an Orleansist—He Believes That the Orleans Dynasty Will be Restored.

LONDON, Nov. 7, 1870.

The special correspondent of the *HERALD* in Brussels forwards the following telegraphic letter from that city, under date of the 6th inst.:

He writes:—To-day I had a protracted and very interesting personal interview with General Changarnier. I found the General living in a suit of modest apartments, situated in a secluded quarter of the city. He wishes to avoid public observation and popular attention as much as possible.

Arriving at the house I handed in my card, inscribed "Correspondent of New York Herald direct from Paris." I was admitted to the dwelling immediately, and in a very few moments subsequently ushered into the sitting apartment of Changarnier.

General Changarnier appears to me as being about seventy-seven years of age. He is of middle height. In general build and configuration of body, as well as the mould and expression of his countenance, he resembles the Hon. Fernando Wood, of New York. He stoops his head, which is sprinkled over with a few gray hairs, when walking. He has, in truth, a painful cast of countenance, without its being indicative of any great amount of intelligence or particular force of mental power. His military cast is that of a soldier who has seen much service and endured fatigue and rough usage. He enjoys the personal demeanor of the French people in a particular degree, being very polite without exhibiting any affectation in his address.

Having exchanged salutations with the veteran, I said:—General Changarnier, I am a special correspondent of the *NEW YORK HERALD*, one of the corps of writers now employed by that journal in various parts of Europe. As an American I feel seriously interested in the progress and probable issue of the war between France and Germany. I have taken the liberty to call upon you in this capacity, and would like to speak with you on the aspect of affairs; of Metz, of Paris, of the republic, &c.

General CHANGARNIER—I salute you, sir. I shall be pleased to talk freely with you of France, unhappy France—sadly and sorrowfully unhappy. Mon Dieu! Mon Dieu! I never expected to see a day such as this even in my oldest years. Tell me, sir, about Paris.

CORRESPONDENT—General Changarnier, Paris, in a military point of view, is strong, even to-day. The inhabitants are engaged in the manufacture of 100,000 Chassepots and 350 brass cannon, breech-loaders, of large calibre. The city has 8,000 horses within its walls and a general supply of provisions calculated to last for the use of the population to the 15th of January next. The people of Paris are very courageous; but I believe, sir, that the end must soon come.

I then added, now, General, what about Metz? Did the fortress surrender through necessity? Was there treachery inside?

General CHANGARNIER—No, sir; there was no treachery. Bazaine did not sell himself to the enemy. He had no need of money. His work was far from being an act of treason to France. Mon Dieu! There was no treachery; it was absolute necessity.

CORRESPONDENT—About the military capacity of Marshal Bazaine?

General CHANGARNIER—There is the point. It is said by many that the Marshal is really incompetent to command a large army, that the number of his own force bewildered him, that he could not move the men with effect, could not operate with an army with any chance of final success; in fact, that he has really no judgment or foresight in a great military emergency. It is also alleged that he is a selfish man—all for himself and his own personal glorification, and not very enthusiastic for the honor of his country. Bazaine, as it is said, sir, thought all the time that if peace were proclaimed soon between Prussia and France Paris would never attempt to hold out; that the war struggle would fall flat, and that, his military reputation being unimpaired, he would march from Metz at the head of 150,000 of the very cream of the French army, and thus force the public to believe him a hero.

CORRESPONDENT—That is the precise explanation? CHANGARNIER—Nearly so, as I will show you afterwards. Bazaine was driven into Metz on the 19th of August. He could have escaped soon after he had marched boldly out with his entire army during the thirteen remaining days of the month of August to September 1, and for fifteen days of October. This is an absolute certainty. Any man possessing a sound knowledge of military affairs will tell you the same thing. Look at the facts. There were fifty-eight days elapsed with Bazaine shut up in the strongest fortress of France, where he had 150,000 of the bravest and most experienced soldiers could merely exist. Once in the field with such an army there would be no more Sedan. Sedan was made notorious for this—the troops insulted their officers; were insubordinate as well as inefficient. What sort of an army is that? Look, however, sir, in Metz; the soldiers remained entirely obedient to orders. Every order was executed on delivery. They did not have in Metz another army—an army of "reds" and radical republicans.

CORRESPONDENT—Why, then, did not Bazaine go out from Metz, having such soldiers? He had also excellent artillery, good cavalry, the very best infantry in the world and all the ammunition which he could desire for further war purposes.

General CHANGARNIER—As I have told you, Bazaine was selfish. He wanted to be a hero. Imagine that peace would be concluded, he thought that the world at large would say, "Bazaine held Metz after France had dropped strength after strength into the hands of the enemy." But remember that during the last ten days of the

investment of Metz French sorties had been rendered impossible. No attack on the Prussians, no attempt at escape could be made.

CORRESPONDENT—Why?

General CHANGARNIER—Because Bazaine had really no artillery, no cavalry mounted, and only, in fact, an infantry. He could do nothing against these three branches of the Prussian service in force and well equipped.

CORRESPONDENT—General Changarnier, what was the accurate or exact number of French soldiers in Metz at the moment of the surrender?

General CHANGARNIER—One hundred and thirty-five thousand soldiers. Of these there were twenty-five thousand disabled by wounds and ten thousand laid up with sickness of different forms. The cavalry and artillery were useless—there were no horses to render them available. Bazaine was thus reduced to sixty thousand infantry. There you have it, sir. We were not in a bad state at the moment of the capitulation? Mon Dieu! All our fine horses had been eaten up. Our bread and breadstuffs were gone. We had no salt. Horseflesh, Monsieur, is not bad as an article of food when it is eaten with bread and salt, and when the animal had been in good condition and not before slaughter, but our horses in Metz were not fat, and we had neither bread nor salt. The taste of the horse meat was horrible. Could troops feel stand with any great battle? The world must have reason, sir. You must understand, do not forget, that during the last ten days of the Prussian investment the soldiers of France walked in mud deep enough to reach almost to their knees. The heavy rains and sheer starvation forced us to surrender. But, as I have told you, there were fifty-eight days when Bazaine could have taken this fine army out and saved France. How unhappy!

Here General Changarnier became deeply moved by his feelings and almost overcame by emotion. Resuming after a little time, Changarnier said:—"Look, in his sorrows Bazaine never made a decided, serious effort to escape from Metz. Every sortie was merely a pretended movement, made for appearance sake, and nothing else."

There were, sir, four officers of high rank in Metz, as well as Bazaine. They were all in favor of a system of inaction. I had an opportunity of observing all the military movements. They were all officers, every one. Bazaine and the generals and chiefs, his friends, were not acting as soldiers. They were only seeking and working for their own public future.

CORRESPONDENT—How were the sorties conducted? CHANGARNIER—Always with a small force and evidently with no preconceived idea that they would be successful, although every sortie was finely executed. True history must speak well of the French troops as fighting above all examples of heroism, but small sorties are useless measures. Let me say more about Bazaine. He was not at the battle of the 18th of August. He was far from the field. So also was King William, who sent a bombastic account to Queen Augusta stating he was on the field. I was there myself and I slept under a historic tree, one that might now be known as the *arbre des Prussiens*. In the fight of the 18th of August 300,000 Prussians were opposed to 150,000 Frenchmen. Let me tell of the surrender. Four outlets were fixed for the exodus of the French troops. The morning they departed out of Metz I shall never forget. Old man as I am, and old soldier too, the sight I witnessed will never pass from my memory. It moved me more than any event of my long life. Soldiers kissed and embraced their officers. There was one universal shout of "Vive la France!" It was something grand to see 100,000 men in tears for their country.

CORRESPONDENT—If Bazaine had moved his troops to the field, what then?

CHANGARNIER—He could have sought to reach Nancy, where the country was rich and the fields were covered with promises. He could there have established a strong position.

CORRESPONDENT—Then you would say of Bazaine that it was the inability of self-glory? CHANGARNIER—That is it.

CORRESPONDENT—Of course, General, Paris is now the great centre.

CHANGARNIER—Yes, it is. The republic, you say, well, it governs without police. But are not the 40,000 troops? CHANGARNIER—Yes. Should judge that out of 40,000 troops at least 125,000 would go for an Orleans monarch, as the Orleans feeling is strong in France.

CHANGARNIER—Very strong. The provinces are all for a calm and for a wise, just and liberal Orleans government. I know Parisian politics; I know France, and this sad and unhappy situation can have no better relief than in the restoration of that line. You told me of red republicanism in Paris and of the republic that must conserve all these incongruous elements. This hour the people of Paris do not know whether they want a republic or a monarchy. They don't know what they want. Some are for the Orleans dynasty; Favre is for one party; the reds are for another. All over France there are violent, irreconcilable factions. Do you not believe that from these must come the restoration?

CORRESPONDENT—Yes, General; in Paris it looks as if this republic must fall, owing to the dissension among the leaders.

CHANGARNIER—You are right. The republic cannot stand it. It is a fact that it cannot stand. It is already divided—already broken into fragments all over France. There is no government to-day. It needs organization and harmony. The Orleansists can give these to France. An Orleans monarch is peace, quiet, repose and general happiness.

CORRESPONDENT—Travelling from Paris to Strasbourg I found the peasants all for peace, emphatically against the republic and against Napoleon. What does that mean?

CHANGARNIER—It means the restoration. CORRESPONDENT—And how about Napoleon? How was he at Metz?

CHANGARNIER—He is dead. (With the mention of these words the venerable General gave signs of satisfaction, mentioning Napoleon's name with a frown.) No, he continued, the Prussians may put Napoleon back into power again, but he will never be recognized in Paris or throughout France.

CORRESPONDENT—The man of Sedan, then, is no more?

Changarnier at this raised his hands and shrugged his shoulders.

CORRESPONDENT—What do you think of the present military and political situation?

CHANGARNIER—Very unhappy; very unhappy. We all appreciate America as the best friend of France.

CORRESPONDENT—Many Americans believe France will never surrender.

CHANGARNIER—Never, never! All we can do now is to hope.

At this point we were interrupted by a visitor who was announced, and the General buttoned his coat to the neck and prepared to meet some distinguished guest. Taking leave, I left the room. As soon as I reached the door Princess Beauvois' name was announced. She is a lady about forty-two years of age, and was dressed in deep mourning. She entered, and when she met the General she fell into his arms. The meeting was deeply sentimental on both sides, and has doubtless an unusual diplomatic significance. I give you the name as pronounced; but I have since been informed that the lady in question is a prominent Orleansist. There is evidently a strong movement here for the restoration of the Orleans, and General Changarnier is one of the principal leaders.

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few hours to spare at Versailles, on his way from Paris after the liberation of the Americans, reports as follows to-day:—

On his journey from Paris, when near to and at Versailles, I found German troops coming in great numbers to reinforce the Prussian army.

King William was busy with the enemy. Bismarck with politics and Thiers endeavoring to negotiate an armistice.

The French people are clamorous for peace and the Germans willing to terminate the war by some means or other, it did not appear to matter how. Everything around presented and indicated a speedy climax of the struggle, either for good or bad.

PRINCE LEOPOLD OF HOHENZOLLERN.

Finding that the other celebrities present were too busy engaged to attend to conversation, I sought to have a talk with Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern, the primary cause of the war.

HIS APPEARANCE.

Prince Leopold is thirty-five years of age. He has a magnificent appearance, one which would grace any throne in the world. He is married to a Princess of Portugal, who is said to equal her husband fully in personal beauty.

A FRANK AND GENEROUS STATEMENT.

I saluted and we entered into conversation at once.

Prince Leopold conversed with great freedom of expression. He said that the candidacy of the Spanish throne was unsought by him. He believed that the crown was offered to him in good faith by General Prim, mainly with the view of drawing Spain and Portugal into closer union for the future, through the Princess, his wife. He could never understand why the Emperor Napoleon went on with the war after he (Prince Leopold) had withdrawn from the royal candidacy, an act which he accomplished without reservation, and also in good faith. Napoleon must have already resolved to conquer Germany, underrating her strength. The Emperor used his (the Prince's) candidacy merely as a pretext for the movement and to make a war.

PEACE BUT PRINCIPLE.

He (Prince Leopold) was anxious for peace, and he believed that every German prince was the same; but Germany, standing alone by her people, hates both the name and terms of peace.

The King of Prussia peremptorily insists on this: If France considers the terms of peace which he may offer exorbitant or oppressive, France has a complete right to refuse; but the experience of the war to this moment shows that France can trace out only very slight hope of placing herself in any better position than that which she has at the present moment. While Germany does not desire to increase her demands, which are only such as are dictated by prudence and reason, a still further resistance on the part of France can merely render her situation still more unfavorable, worse, by actually increasing the burdens which she must assuredly bear.

FRANCE IN THE FIELD WITHOUT A HEAD.

All the German leaders, as well as the people of Germany at large, have been surprised at the easy success of the Prussian arms. They believed, of course, that Prussia would succeed in the end, but France had not fought as they expected she would. This came more from the fault of the French generals "lost their heads" with the first defeats of their troops, not one